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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENTS IN HUMANIA

On 29 September 1949, a temporary agreement was signed between representatives of the Soviet, Rumanian, and Czechoslovak railroads beginning operations on the railroad line from Halmel to Cierna nad Tisou. This line is of small importance to Czechoslovakia since it has been rebuilt for broad gauge, and goods sent to Czechoslovakia have to be transhipped twice.

Air transport of freight weighing up to 10 kilograms has been inaugurated to cities with airfields. These include Timisoara, Arad, Oradea, Satu-Mare, Cluj, Sibiu, Galati, Bacau, Iasi, and Baneasa (in Bucharest).

Preparatory work on the construction of the Danube-Black Sea Canal has begun. This is being done mostly in the Dobrogea region, around Cerna-Voda, Medgidia, Poarta Alba, Ovidiu, Navodari, and Capul Midia. Several thousand workers are employed on the project. The canal, about 65 kilometers long, will lead from the basin of the new port, Cerna-Voda, will follow the Caras River as far as Poarta Alba, and then go in the direction of Siut Ghiol and flow into the sea south of Capul Midia. A highway, railroad, and aqueduct will be built alongside the canal. The construction operation will be equipped with electrical centers, repair shops for repairing vehicles and machines, brick factories, etc. The USSR is making the greatest contribution of any of the people's democracies.

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